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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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HM-599PCT

Applicant(s)

: Walter Trakowski, et al

Serial No.

NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP03/01701)

Int. Filed

: February 20, 2003

For

DEVICE FOR HOT DIP COATING METAL STRANDS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

In advance of the first office action, please amend the claims as follows: